

the condition of education 2004



INDICATOR 6

Past and Projected Undergraduate Enrollments

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2004*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2004* visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004077>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

Suggested Citation:

Wirt, J., Choy, S., Rooney, P., Provasnik, S., Sen, A., and Tobin, R. (2004). *The Condition of Education 2004* (NCES 2004-077). U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.



Undergraduate Education

Past and Projected Undergraduate Enrollments

In the next 10 years, undergraduate enrollment in 4-year institutions is projected to increase at a faster rate than in 2-year institutions and women's enrollment is expected to increase at a faster rate than men's.

Total undergraduate enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions has generally increased in the past three decades, and it is projected to increase throughout the next 10 years. These increases have been accompanied by changes in the attendance status of students, the type of institution attended, and the proportion of students who are women. The number of students enrolled both part time and full time, the number of students at 2- and 4-year institutions, and the number of male and female undergraduates are projected to reach a new high each year from 2004 to 2013 (see supplemental table 6-1).

In the past, more undergraduate students were enrolled full time than part time in degree-granting 2- and 4-year institutions. This pattern is expected to continue in the future. In the 1970s, part-time undergraduate enrollment increased at a faster rate than full-time undergraduate enrollment, but the majority of students were still enrolled full time. During the 1980s, growth slowed for both groups. In the 1990s, the rate of full-time undergraduate enrollment increased, while part-time undergraduate enrollment remained fairly

constant. In the next 10 years, full-time undergraduate enrollment is expected to increase at a faster rate than part-time enrollment.

More undergraduate students attended 4-year institutions than 2-year institutions. After strong growth in the 1970s, the rate of increase in undergraduate enrollment at 2-year institutions slowed in the 1980s and slowed still further in the 1990s. However, it is expected to increase again in the next 10 years. Four-year undergraduate enrollment has increased over the past three decades and is expected to increase at a faster rate than undergraduate enrollment in 2-year institutions in the next 10 years.

In 1978, the number of undergraduate women in degree-granting 2- and 4-year institutions exceeded the number of undergraduate men. Since the 1970s, women's undergraduate enrollment has increased faster than men's. In the next 10 years, men's undergraduate enrollment is projected to increase more than in the 1990s, but women's undergraduate enrollment is projected to grow at a faster rate.

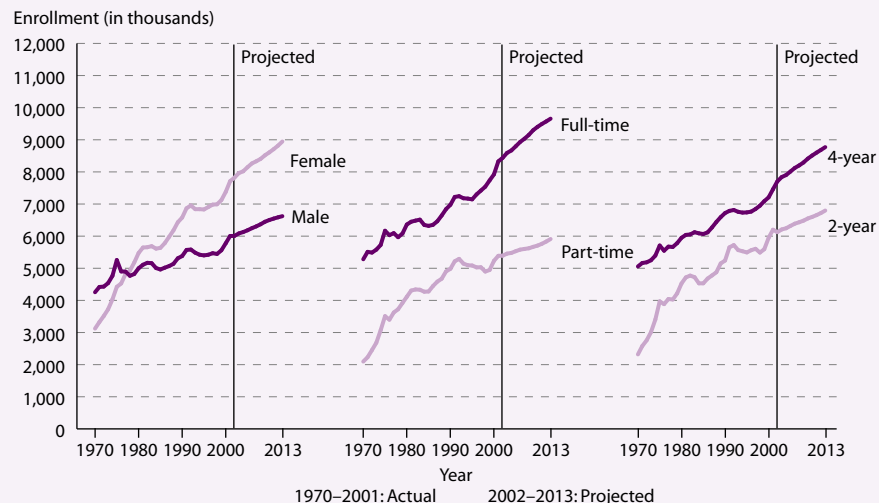
NOTE: Projections are based upon the middle alternative assumptions concerning the economy. For more information, see NCES 2004-013. Data for 1999 were imputed using alternative procedures. For more information, see NCES 2003-060, pp. 509-512.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES. (forthcoming). *Digest of Education Statistics 2003* (NCES 2004-024), table 187 and (2003) *Projections of Education Statistics to 2013* (NCES 2004-013), tables 16, 18, and 19. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1969-1986 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities" and 1987-2001 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, "Fall Enrollment Survey" (IPEDS-EF:87-01).



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 3, 8
Supplemental Table 6-1

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: Total undergraduate enrollment in degree-granting 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions (in thousands), by sex, attendance status, and type of institution, with projections: Fall 1970-2013



Past and Projected Undergraduate Enrollments

Table 6-1. Total undergraduate enrollment in degree-granting 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions (in thousands), by sex, attendance status, and type of institution, with projections: Fall 1970–2013

| Year | Total | Sex | | Attendance status | | Type of institution | |
|------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------|--------|
| | | Male | Female | Full-time | Part-time | 4-year | 2-year |
| 1970 | 7,376 | 4,254 | 3,122 | 5,280 | 2,096 | 5,057 | 2,319 |
| 1971 | 7,743 | 4,418 | 3,325 | 5,512 | 2,231 | 5,164 | 2,579 |
| 1972 | 7,941 | 4,429 | 3,512 | 5,488 | 2,453 | 5,185 | 2,756 |
| 1973 | 8,261 | 4,538 | 3,723 | 5,580 | 2,681 | 5,249 | 3,012 |
| 1974 | 8,798 | 4,765 | 4,033 | 5,726 | 3,072 | 5,394 | 3,404 |
| 1975 | 9,679 | 5,257 | 4,422 | 6,169 | 3,510 | 5,709 | 3,970 |
| 1976 | 9,429 | 4,902 | 4,527 | 6,030 | 3,399 | 5,546 | 3,883 |
| 1977 | 9,717 | 4,897 | 4,820 | 6,094 | 3,623 | 5,674 | 4,043 |
| 1978 | 9,691 | 4,766 | 4,925 | 5,967 | 3,724 | 5,663 | 4,028 |
| 1979 | 9,998 | 4,821 | 5,178 | 6,080 | 3,919 | 5,781 | 4,217 |
| 1980 | 10,475 | 5,000 | 5,475 | 6,362 | 4,113 | 5,949 | 4,526 |
| 1981 | 10,755 | 5,109 | 5,646 | 6,449 | 4,306 | 6,039 | 4,716 |
| 1982 | 10,825 | 5,170 | 5,655 | 6,484 | 4,341 | 6,053 | 4,772 |
| 1983 | 10,846 | 5,158 | 5,688 | 6,514 | 4,332 | 6,123 | 4,723 |
| 1984 | 10,618 | 5,007 | 5,611 | 6,348 | 4,270 | 6,087 | 4,531 |
| 1985 | 10,597 | 4,962 | 5,635 | 6,320 | 4,277 | 6,066 | 4,531 |
| 1986 | 10,798 | 5,018 | 5,780 | 6,352 | 4,446 | 6,118 | 4,680 |
| 1987 | 11,046 | 5,068 | 5,978 | 6,463 | 4,584 | 6,270 | 4,776 |
| 1988 | 11,317 | 5,138 | 6,179 | 6,642 | 4,674 | 6,442 | 4,875 |
| 1989 | 11,743 | 5,311 | 6,432 | 6,841 | 4,902 | 6,592 | 5,151 |
| 1990 | 11,959 | 5,380 | 6,579 | 6,976 | 4,983 | 6,719 | 5,240 |
| 1991 | 12,439 | 5,571 | 6,868 | 7,221 | 5,218 | 6,787 | 5,652 |
| 1992 | 12,538 | 5,583 | 6,955 | 7,244 | 5,293 | 6,815 | 5,722 |
| 1993 | 12,324 | 5,484 | 6,840 | 7,179 | 5,144 | 6,758 | 5,566 |
| 1994 | 12,263 | 5,422 | 6,840 | 7,169 | 5,094 | 6,733 | 5,530 |
| 1995 | 12,232 | 5,401 | 6,831 | 7,145 | 5,086 | 6,739 | 5,493 |
| 1996 | 12,327 | 5,421 | 6,906 | 7,299 | 5,028 | 6,764 | 5,563 |
| 1997 | 12,451 | 5,469 | 6,982 | 7,419 | 5,032 | 6,845 | 5,606 |
| 1998 | 12,437 | 5,446 | 6,991 | 7,539 | 4,898 | 6,948 | 5,489 |
| 1999 | 12,681 | 5,559 | 7,122 | 7,735 | 4,946 | 7,089 | 5,593 |
| 2000 | 13,155 | 5,778 | 7,377 | 7,923 | 5,232 | 7,207 | 5,948 |
| 2001 | 13,716 | 6,004 | 7,711 | 8,328 | 5,388 | 7,465 | 6,251 |
| Projected ¹ | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | 13,829 | 6,008 | 7,821 | 8,438 | 5,392 | 7,705 | 6,124 |
| 2003 | 14,048 | 6,085 | 7,963 | 8,592 | 5,456 | 7,840 | 6,209 |
| 2004 | 14,146 | 6,127 | 8,019 | 8,668 | 5,478 | 7,901 | 6,245 |
| 2005 | 14,329 | 6,183 | 8,146 | 8,797 | 5,532 | 8,011 | 6,318 |
| 2006 | 14,511 | 6,248 | 8,264 | 8,931 | 5,580 | 8,123 | 6,388 |
| 2007 | 14,634 | 6,304 | 8,331 | 9,033 | 5,602 | 8,201 | 6,433 |
| 2008 | 14,775 | 6,370 | 8,405 | 9,152 | 5,622 | 8,293 | 6,482 |
| 2009 | 14,965 | 6,448 | 8,517 | 9,298 | 5,667 | 8,414 | 6,551 |
| 2010 | 15,109 | 6,502 | 8,608 | 9,403 | 5,706 | 8,511 | 6,599 |
| 2011 | 15,255 | 6,547 | 8,708 | 9,493 | 5,762 | 8,600 | 6,655 |
| 2012 | 15,404 | 6,586 | 8,818 | 9,572 | 5,832 | 8,684 | 6,720 |
| 2013 | 15,568 | 6,622 | 8,946 | 9,657 | 5,911 | 8,771 | 6,797 |

¹ Projections based on data through 2000 and middle alternative assumptions concerning the economy. See NCES 2004–013 for more information on projections.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Data for 1999 were imputed using alternative procedures. See NCES 2003–060, pp. 509–512 for more information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, (forthcoming). *Digest of Education Statistics 2003* (NCES 2004–024), table 187 and (2003) *Projections of Education Statistics to 2013* (NCES 2004–013), tables 16, 18, and 19. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1969–1986 Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), “Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities” and 1987–2001 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, “Fall Enrollment Survey” (IPEDS-EF:87–01).